GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:248
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
PRICES OF FOODGRAINS ACROSS THE WORLD
Kurup Adv. Suresh

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of foodgrains have shown an increasing trend across the world during the last one year;

(b) if so,whether the Government has made any assessment regarding its likely impact on prices and availability of foodgrains in the country;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.248 FOR 17.03.2008 REGARDING PRICES OF FOODGRAINS ACROSS THE WORLD

(a): Yes sir.International prices of all major cereals have substantially increased during the last one year.

(b) & (c): Yes sir. Government is closely monitoring the scenario of prices and availability of foodgrains in different major producing countries of the world. In the assessment of the Government, high global prices and tight supply position would make imports both difficult and costly. So far the domestic production of foodgrains (Rice, wheat and pulses) has been such as to substantially meet the domestic needs.

(d): The Government has been taking effective steps to moderate the prices and contain inflation. It has taken a number of steps which are listed in the Annexure.